

JORDAN TIMES

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Spare the rope

SOVEREIGN countries are understandably sensitive about anything that looks like interference in their internal affairs. Such is the case now with Pakistan, as messages flow in from around the world appealing to President Zia-ul-Haq to commute the death sentence against the former prime minister, Mr. Bhutto, which has just been upheld by the Pakistani Supreme Court.

We sympathise with General Zia's dilemma. On the one hand, he can claim to have inherited manifold problems caused by the corruptness and inefficiency of Mr. Bhutto's government, in a country already struggling to overcome very pressing human, social and economic problems, to counteract centrifugal ethnic tendencies and to ward off infection from an epidemic of instability which threatens to spread around it.

In the specific case of Mr. Bhutto, Gen. Zia can also point to the Pakistani judiciary's constitutional status, and reputation, of independence from the government; to the extraordinarily open manner in which the Bhutto case was heard; and to the fact that the accused was allowed the unprecedented privilege of testifying before the Supreme Court on his own behalf.

Yet, some unsettling facts remain. The Supreme Court verdict was on a split vote, with three of the seven justices voting against; there must therefore be some room for doubt about the absolute cogency of the evidence. Secondly, although no condemned person has yet been hanged in Pakistan on the basis of a less-than-unanimous court ruling, General Zia has said he will abide by the Supreme Court's verdict: this opens the way for the president's decision to be misinterpreted—as politically motivated, as an act of vengeance, as an exemplar of the re-emergence of Islamic law in Pakistan, or simply as the act of military strongman designed "to discourage the others."

In any event, we cannot but feel that Mr. Bhutto, whatever his political misdeeds, deserves a better fate. And Pakistan does not deserve to suffer the likely consequences of his execution. We add our voice in those who appeal, in the name of humanity, for the life of this man to be spared.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

At last the United States has decided to resume the bilateral talks between Egypt and Israel within two weeks at a time when Secretary of State Cyrus Vance declared that all remaining points of the peace treaty should be solved in one single deal when negotiations are resumed, AL RA'I says in an editorial Thursday.

Despite warnings by the American press that the fate of the resumed negotiations would not be better than the "suspended" ones, the new American call and the quick response by Egypt and Israel clearly indicate the possibility of signing the agreement by spring as Henry Kissinger and Shimon Peres had predicted, the newspaper adds.

AL RA'I says America's adherence to the Camp David process to the last limit means that the U.S. will push forward in its anti-Arab line without paying attention to its wide-spread interests in the region.

Referring to what it calls the chronic inability of the Arab mass media to expose Israel's inhuman practices against Arab prisoners throughout 11 years of occupation, the newspaper asks: "Was it right that the question of Arab prisoners in the Israeli jails should be raised across the Washington Post newspaper or through reports of the American consulate in Jerusalem in order that the world knows that Israel is actually practicing these systematic and brutal acts?"

"A description that the Arabs are the worst defenders of the most rightful and just cause truly applies to, and, suits us!"

AL DUSTOUR highlights an auspicious anniversary, the birthday of Prophet Mohammad which is being celebrated in Jordan and the Muslim world.

The newspaper notes that the anniversary comes at a time when "those who had always ridiculed and stood against the religions of other nations, and desecrated their holy places, are now mounting a vicious campaign of instigation against Islam." The Muslims all over the world today are duty-bound to defend Islam and to project its civilised aspects as an international social, political and economic system, based on justice and divinely calling for peace, stability and prosperity for mankind, AL DUSTOUR writes.

Clubs, Societies, Sports Groups--let us know what you are doing

Our "What's going on" section needs YOUR help if it is going to be a success. It's the news of your clubs, your exhibitions, your meetings and outings that are open to the public which appear in "What's going on". Help us to help you publicise your public events: charity bazaars, school open days, concerts, commercial exhibitions—our readers are interested in your event.

Please write us at P.O. Box 6710, telephone 67171 or even call in at our offices on the Amman-Sweilah road between 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. and tell us what's going on.

The Jordan Times will publish free listings on the day of the event.



Syria's foremost stage actor, Zinate Koutsia, in a panorama of his lead roles. He is starring in the Syrian National Theatre's production of "Man of La Mancha."

Palestinian actor breaks through stereotype in Syrian production of "Man of La Mancha"

By Pat McDonnell
Special to the Jordan Times

DAMASCUS—When you've viewed a performance by Zinate Koutsia, you're aware you've seen acting at its best, even if you don't understand a word of Arabic.

This reporter was lucky enough to see him in two of his foremost roles in 1978: as Jerry in Edward Albee's "The Zoo," and as a Palestinian villager in "The Visit," Mamdouh Adwan's adaptation of "It's Happening Today in Egypt."

Mr. Koutsia operates from basic gut-level emotion which he refers to as the Stanislavsky method. Whatever school of acting he belongs to, Mr. Koutsia captivates his audiences.

The five foot, three inch tall dynamo is now starring in the role of Don Quixote in a three-week run of the National Theatre's production of "Man of La Mancha" which opened last Sunday.

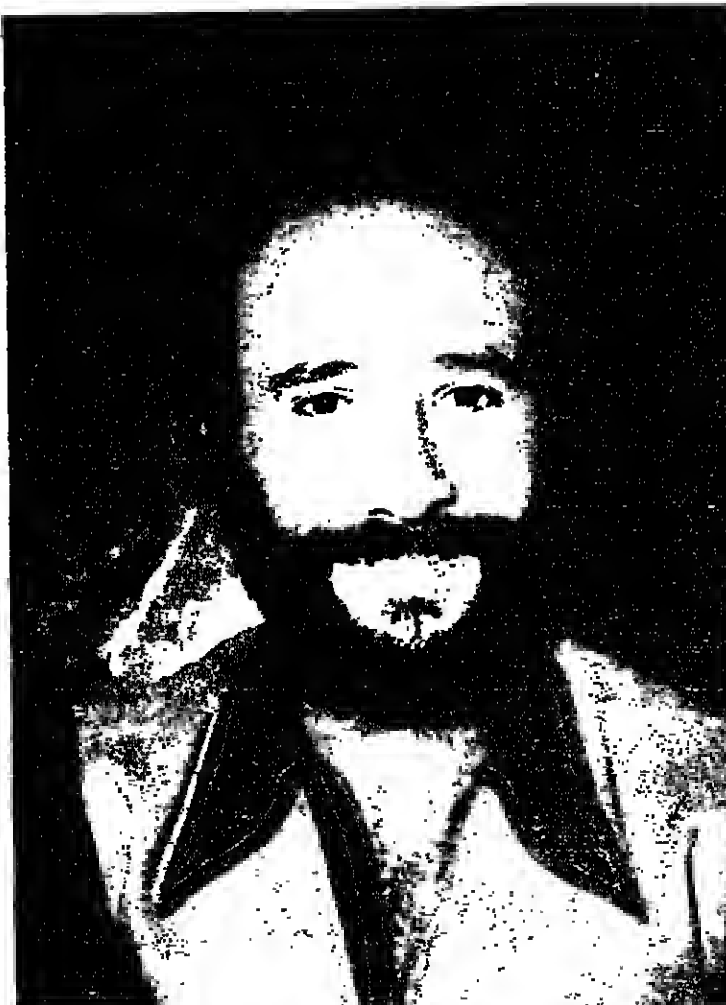
Customarily, one envisions a wraith-like actor well over six feet in the part but according to the director of the musical, Mahmoud Khadout:

"Zinate excelled head and shoulders over the nine other actors who tried out for the part. In this particular production, Don Quixote must carry the play—no other actor could have done it but Zinate."

"Don Quixote is known to us all in literature, in the theatre, as a lean, towering figure. It was a challenge to see if my character, Zinate, could break through this stereotype by the sheer force of his performance."

During the dress rehearsal, Mr. Koutsia bounced on his knees, did a somersault, sang, and offered more than two or three tear-jerking orations.

How does he nightly run his body and emotions through the gamut?



Palestinian-born star of the Syrian stage: Zinate Koutsia

"I have to get into the character I'm playing," he replied. "Stanislavsky said the actor must be one with the character he is portraying. I agree with this 100 per cent. If, during rehearsal, I feel that some motion is artificial, I stop. After an hour or so, I'll try it again, but whatever the gesture is, it must be made from the heart."

An indication of his involvement in his roles is that on the opening night of "The Zoo" in

"After each performance, she makes me soak my legs in salt water and relax for an hour. I'm usually too wound up to eat anything but an apple after the show."

No prima donna, Mr. Koutsia moved props during dress rehearsal and helped other actors adjust their costumes or go over their lines. Perhaps some of the humility comes from his struggle to gain professional recognition.

Born in Haifa in 1947, he studied fine arts at the Ministry of Culture's Fine Arts Academy in Amman from which he graduated in 1969.

"I was serious about becoming a painter, but I joined theatrical productions at the academy as a lark," he said. "My professors advised me that I had more talent for acting. I have a great admiration for creative painters, a little bit of me still yearns for and always will be with the palette and brush."

At the academy, Mr. Koutsia managed to squeeze in courses in voice, singing and guitar which have done him proud in the musical in which he's currently starring.

In 1970, he moved to Syria and was the leading actor in three Damascus University theatre festivals for which he won top awards in 1971, 1972 and 1973. He subsequently starred in amateur productions, again winning top prizes for three successive years.

In late 1977, the National Theatre of Syria asked him to join its company—the rest is history. Following his performance in "Man of La Mancha," he's slated to appear in Lorca's "Bloody Wedding" and play the sole part in Gogol's "Diary of a Madman" during the National Theatre's 1979 season.

Does it seem that recognition has come too fast and too easily? "After eight years of working to

get into the National Theatre? No," he replied. "I felt I was meant to play the lead roles in 'The Zoo,' 'The Visit,' 'Handala.' When it came to Don Quixote, that was an achievement because I had to be twice as good as the tall actors trying out for the part."

Mr. Koutsia readily admits he hasn't been chosen for all the roles for which he's tried out, particularly Hamlet in the National Theatre's repertoire of 1978.

"Perhaps 10 years from now, I'd like to perform King Lear. I don't want makeup, I want to be the man," he said.

His... and to... Madness... playwright... "Hands... Brooke... "I would... England... and see... Syrians... Soviet Union... stand... reports... to... pening... Western... It's worth... see Mr. Koutsia... of "La Mancha"... Theatre—he's going...

WHAT'S GOING ON

Art Exhibit

An exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Moustafa at the Art Gallery, Ministry of Culture and Youth, open from 11 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

German Art Exhibit

The Goethe Institute presents a photographic survey of German contemporary art entitled "Photography as Documentation." Open during regular hours.

Painting and Drawing Exhibit

An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Ann Wiegman at the American Centre. Open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except Friday.

Russian Film

The Soviet Cultural Centre presents a film about a war hero, entitled "The Strong in Spirit," at 4:00 p.m.

French Film

The French Cultural Centre presents a film by Robert Bresson entitled "Mouchette" at 7:30 p.m. French version with subtitles.

Arab publications distributors meet

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JT)—The general secretariat of a pan-Arab union of publications distributors has gathered here for two days of meetings to discuss ways of streamlining the transfer of printed information between Arab states.

Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh delivered the opening speech today stressing the importance of the distribution of publications as the vital link in the information chain for the exchange of cultural material.

Mr. Abu Odeh said that in a recent meeting Arab information ministers underlined the impor-

importance of the role of the Arab distributors' union in spreading Arab culture and thought within the Arab states and throughout the world.

He called for improving the distribution process and granting distributors necessary facilities.

During the meetings, the participants will study the union's statutes and discuss problems in distributing printed material. They will also study ways of reducing shipping rates and the establishment of an Arab distribution company in London.

The participants represent distributors from all Arab countries.



Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh (center) addresses the meeting of Arab publication distributors in Amman.

1250

Jordan Weekly Calendar

(Week of Feb. 9 - 15)

EXHIBITIONS

CONTINUING: An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Ann Wiegand is on display at the American Centre. The exhibit can be visited daily except Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., ending on Feb. 10.

The exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Moustafa continues at the Art Gallery, Ministry of Culture and Youth. Open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. daily till Feb. 11.

At the Goethe Institute, an exhibition entitled "Photography as documentation" is on display. This exhibition presents a survey of contemporary West German art. Opening hours are 9:00 to 2:00 a.m. and 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., ending Feb. 10.

TUESDAY, February 13: The British Council presents a book exhibition on agricultural education. Subject areas include animal production, crop production, crop protection and pests, farm buildings and buildings, food, forestry, horticulture, soils and water, and veterinary science. There is also a selection of agricultural journals. The exhibition ends on Feb. 15.

At the French Cultural Centre, a documentary exhibition on "George Sand" opens and will continue till Feb. 28 during regular hours.

WEDNESDAY, February 14: The Soviet Cultural Centre presents a photo exhibit to commemorate the sixty-first anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet armed forces. The exhibit can be visited during regular hours.



Untitled works by Mohammad Moustafa (above and below) are in the collection on view at the Art Gallery till Feb. 11.



FILMS

DAY, February 9: The French Cultural Centre continues its series of films by Robert Bresson with "Mouchette" (1967), an adaptation of a novel by Georges Bernanos. The film stars Nadine, Marie Susini, Marie Cardinal and J.C. Guilbert. The film is shown in French with Arabic subtitles. This film is repeated on Saturday and Sunday, all days at 7:30 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre, a repeat of "The Strong in It" is showing at 4:00 p.m.

SDAY, February 13: The Goethe Institute presents a film by Richard Fechner entitled "Tadelloeser und Wolff" (1975). Part of the film represents a genre which translates literary works onto screen, this particular film being an adaptation of the novel of same title by Walter Kempowski. The film starts at 8:00 p.m. is subtitled in English. Part II will be shown at the same time Wednesday.

RSDAY, February 15: The Soviet Cultural Centre presents first of a four-part film about war entitled "The Siege". The three parts will be shown over the next three weeks, and will be shown in this column.

Continuing its series of children's films, the Goethe Institute presents "Lockende Wildnis" by Heinz Sielmann. This adventure film is suitable for children 10 years old or older, and will start at 6:00 p.m. (English version).

FRIENDS OF ARCHAEOLOGY

SDAY, February 13: The Friends of Archaeology are holding a general meeting at the American Centre in which Dr. James of the American Centre of Oriental Research will give a lecture on "Jordanian Archaeology for Everybody." The meeting starts at 6:00 p.m.

Educational radio, television augment classroom instruction



The cameras are ready to roll (above, right) in Jordan Television's Studio 4. The crew is from the Educational Radio and Television Division of the Ministry of Education. Above left is a closeup of actors, John Barnes and Dr. Murphy playing a scene from "Safer than in a Bank".

By Thomas Cromwell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN—On Jabal Hussein there is a building busy with people creating "sugar-coated pills". This is how one staff member described the services provided by the Educational Radio and Television Division of the Ministry of Education. The "medicine" is knowledge and the "sugar" is the way it is "dispensed".

Already serving about 50,000 students in 170 government secondary schools with television programmes and over 300,000 students in elementary and preparatory schools with radio programmes, the division hopes to greatly expand its facilities and services by 1985.

Educational television (ETV), began in October, 1968, and educational radio, started in February, 1970. Both have been steadily expanding the number, variety and frequency of their programmes. However, a major changeover in textbooks in the mid-70's has delayed the attainment of their ambitious goals.

All the division's programmes are geared to supplement the standard curriculum in the schools. They tie in closely with textbook material.

The ETV programmes for the 1978-79 academic year offer: second and third secondary physics, first and second secondary English, second secondary arts, first and second secondary geography, and first and second secondary Arabic.

Educational radio is used mainly for the five grades that precede secondary school: fifth and sixth elementary, and the three years of preparatory school. The subjects taught are: English, Arabic, and religion. Each broadcast lasts 15 minutes.

For regular school hours both ETV and educational radio provide 8 different programmes a week, each of which is broadcast 5 times to allow for different class schedules. In addition, there is one TV and one radio programme every afternoon to give students a chance to catch up on programmes they may have missed.

ETV also has a half hour evening programme, the same length as the other ETV broadcasts, which is directed to secondary students in the Gaza Strip who follow the Egyptian curriculum. The programmes are prepared in Egypt and broadcast from Jordan.

Also serving the occupied territories are three radio programmes transmitted in the evening to third secondary (final year of high school) students in geography, religion, history, and Arabic. These programmes are prepared by various Arab countries and beamed to Arab students in the West Bank who follow the Jordanian curriculum.

Unfortunately the radio and television timetables, and the booklets with explanations and instructions for teachers that accompany each programme can't be distributed in the West Bank.

A producer of English programmes for radio and TV told the Jordan Times: "We try to mix fun and entertainment with learning. Songs, poems, and plays are especially popular. We often have requests for copies of the material from both students and teachers."

It is, in fact, the students themselves who are most enthusiastic about their "substitute teachers". A recent survey showed that although school staff have more work to do in putting on the programmes, the children want to have more of them.

"Even taxi drivers and housewives enjoy and benefit from our radio programmes," the same producer adds. "Listening to the radio doesn't interfere with a housewife's work as television does."

One of the Educational Radio and Television Division's three main expansion objectives is to have its own radio and television stations by 1985.

The second objective is the production and transmission of all subjects suitable for educational radio and television for the secondary level by the end of 1980 for the preparatory level by the end of 1982; and for the elementary level by the end of 1984.

The third objective is to provide teachers, parents, and cultural programmes.

This expansion will also require matching increases in the supply of television sets, radios, and tape decks for the schools.

The use of tapes has only recently been introduced. It is hoped that all educational radio programmes will eventually be supplied on tapes to give schools more flexibility in integrating the programmes into their schedules.

A more ambitious and far more costly plan is to supply video-tapes to schools. The 1979 budget provides for each school district to have one video-cassette recorder and monitor available to its schools. Master video-tape copies of the televised programmes will be duplicated and distributed. The ministry hopes eventually to expand this service to all schools.

All the films are presently made at the TV station. The station provides the studio, equipment, and the technicians. The material itself, the floor manager, actors, commentator, and director are from the ministry. Taping for radio is done at the ministry's sound studio located on Jabal Hussein, with the help of a technical director from Radio Jordan.

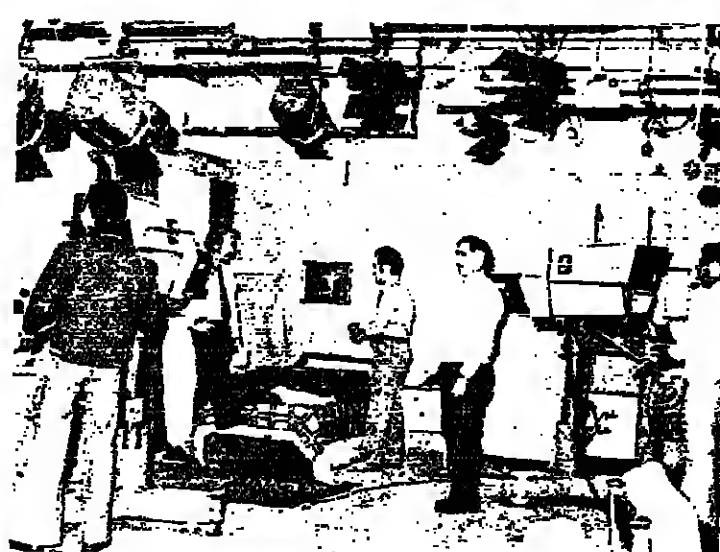
The expansion of television and radio facilities in schools will also be of great benefit when plans for an Arab satellite materialise. Jordan will then be able to benefit from material produced in other countries.

It now takes about a year to produce a series for one subject at one level. Each series is composed of 28 programmes which closely parallel the textbook used for that year.

To improve the standard of material being produced, the ministry asks the schools for feedback on the programmes. Evaluation forms are provided to the schools giving teachers a chance to comment on student response, effectiveness of presentation, voice clarity, etc.

Last year a series of meetings for district principals and teachers was held with the dual purpose of explaining new programmes and getting the teachers' responses and suggestions.

The ministry this year set up a programme evaluation and censoring committee. All material to be broadcast to schools must first



The cameras are ready to roll (above, right) in Jordan Television's Studio 4. The crew is from the Educational Radio and Television Division of the Ministry of Education. Above left is a closeup of actors, John Barnes and Dr. Murphy playing a scene from "Safer than in a Bank".



This is

the dog.

A caption used to teach the sentence structure students have just heard in the song "This is the house that Jack built".



Mark (right) and Tracey Blezard bring life to English in ETV's play "Relatives".



Mrs. Pat Murphy (right) and Nicole Hendof relax during a break in the shooting of an ETV play.

be checked by this committee.

The production directors use the comments of principals, teachers and students, to judge where the greatest need for supplementary material lies. An effort is made to incorporate variety and activity into its presentation.

As one producer explained: "The goal is to make programmes for subjects that are difficult or complicated for a teacher to explain and can't be easily illustrated in class. The teacher doesn't have time to develop supplementary material himself."

With the minister of education himself actively supporting the development of educational radio and television, the future prospects for the "sugar-coated pill factory" on Jabal Hussein look good.



Crown Prince Hassan addresses the visiting delegation from the National Defence College of Canada at the Royal Scientific Society Thursday.

Prince Hassan meets Canadian delegation

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JNA)—His Highness Crown Prince Hassan met at the Royal Scientific Society today with a visiting delegation from the National Defence College of Canada. He briefed the delegation on various development projects in Jordan and regional planning.

In answering questions by the members of the delegation, the Crown Prince explained the adverse effects on the economic life of territories under Israeli occupation.

The Canadian delegation earlier called at the Army Headquarters and met with the Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker and the Air Force commander.

Second anniversary of Queen Alia's death

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JNA)—Tomorrow marks the second anniversary of the death of Queen Alia. In commemoration of the anniversary, senior government officials and public figures will pay a visit to the tomb of the Queen where they will recite verses of the Quran and lay wreaths on the tomb.

Rescue Jerusalem Committee appeals to Waldheim, Red Cross

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JNA)—The Rescue Jerusalem Committee has sent a cable to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, and another to the International Red Cross calling on them to intervene to halt Israeli measures detrimental to the rights of Palestinians under occupation, committee chairman Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh said here yesterday.

The first cable stated that the Israeli authorities are reportedly preparing a new law which would force all diplomatic missions in Israel to transfer their headquarters to occupied Jerusalem. The Israeli government will thus be acting in defiance of the will of the international community expressed in various U.N. resolutions which stipulate that no alterations should take place affecting the character or status of the Holy City, the cable said.

Expressing deep concern for such acts, the committee called on the United Nations and its various agencies to intervene and protect international law and principles which demand that the occupying power safeguard the lives, property and human rights of civilians under occupation.

The second cable called attention to the demolition of Arab houses by Israel in the occupied Arab territories. Arab citizens in the occupied territories are subject to detention, torture and denial of their human rights, the cable said.

Sharif Fawwaz goes to Libya

AMMAN, Feb. 8 (JNA)—Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf left here this morning heading Jordan's delegation to the Arab culture ministers' conference to be held in Libya Feb. 10.

The ministers at the four-day conference will discuss an Arab draft agreement for the protection of copyrights and antiquities which have been taken out of the Arab world. They will also put into force recommendations set by the first conference of Arab ministers of culture which was held in Amman.

The conference agenda includes reviewing recommendations by the standing committee on Arab culture and discussing the current cultural situation in the Arab world.

There will be a celebration organised by the Arab Educational, Cultural, and Scientific Organisation to celebrate the beginning of the 14th century, Al Hijra.

The participants will also set the date and place of the third session for the Arab culture ministers. Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf will sign the draft agreement on copyrights prepared by the Arab League.

The delegation includes President of Jordan University Nasereddine Al Assad, the ministry's cultural advisor, Suleiman Al Mousa and Administrative Director Usama Miqadadi.

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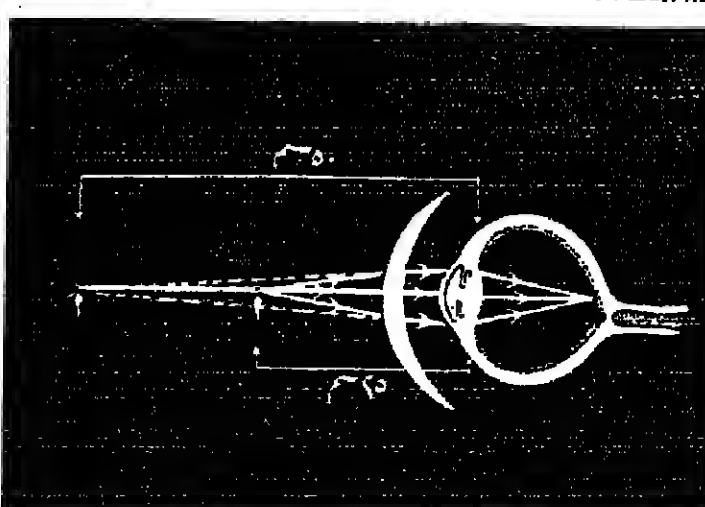
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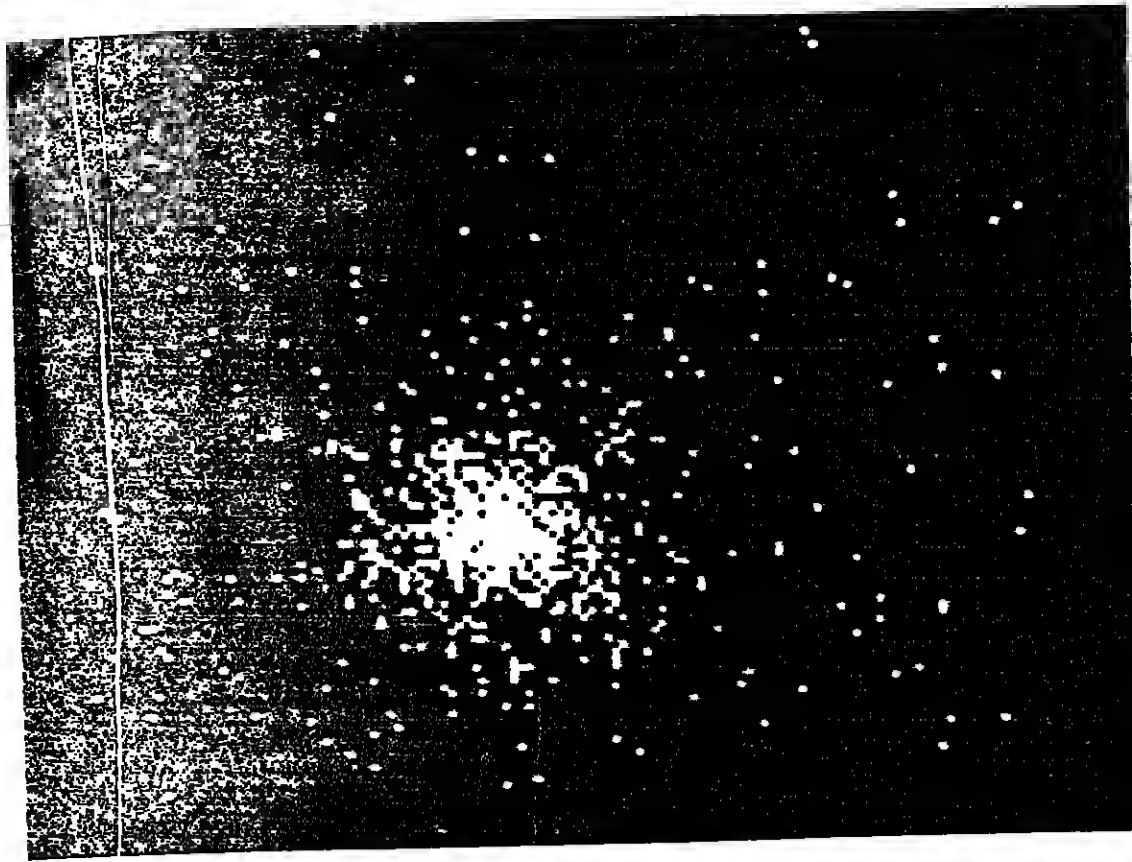
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An "animated caption" used by ETV to help students understand the workings of the eye.

Photos bring heavens down to earth

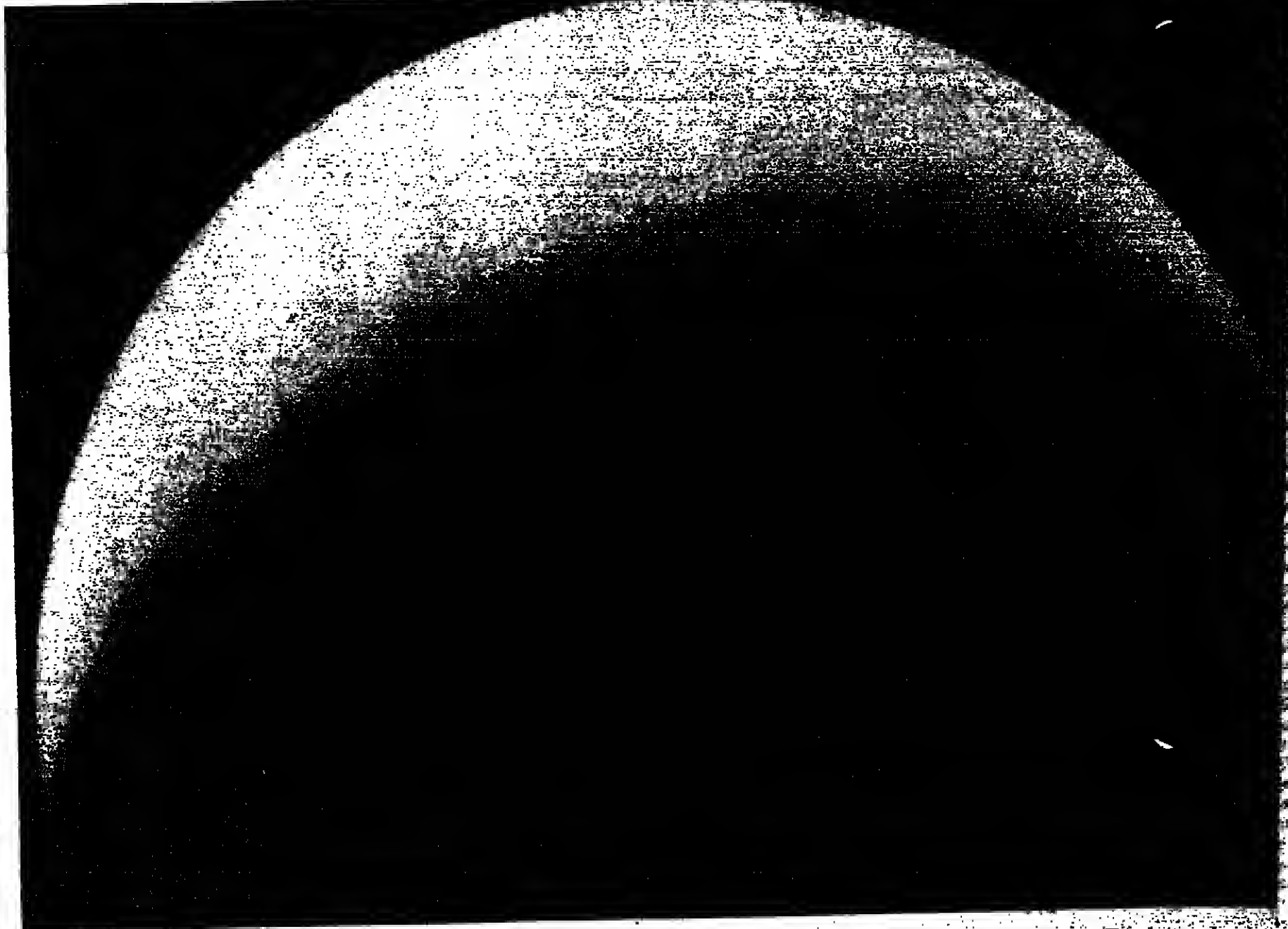
(Photos International Communication Agency)



First X-ray star photo—This first picture of an X-ray star was transmitted from the High Energy Astronomy Observatory (HEAO-2) in Earth orbit to the Goddard Space Centre in Maryland. The

star is Cygnus X-1, a dual system about 6,000 light years away. It is believed to contain a "black hole," a massive star that has collapsed on itself to a density so great that not

even light can escape. The three-ton spacecraft, nicknamed Einstein for the late famed physicist, Albert Einstein, was launched from Florida in November

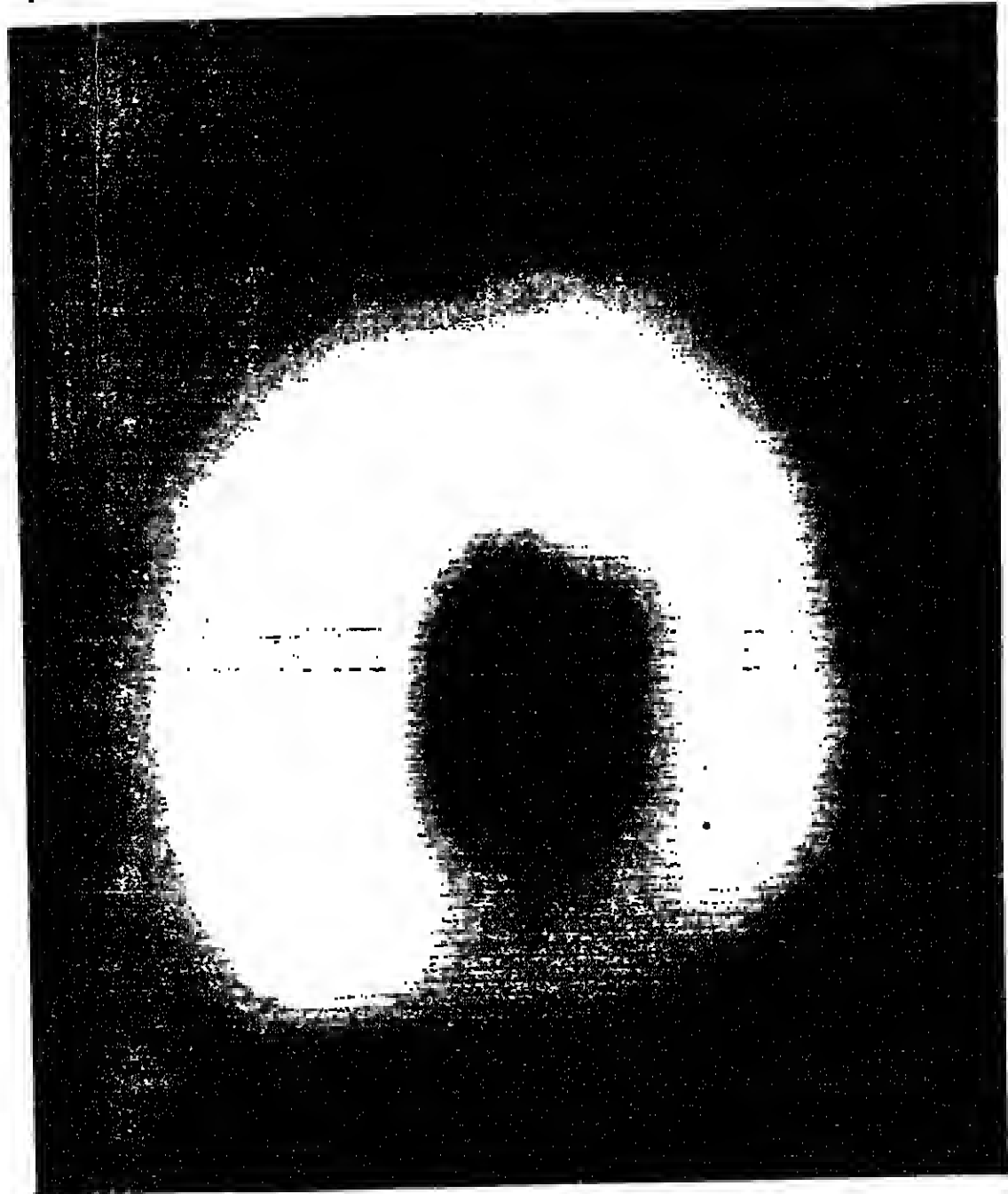


Clouded planet—the crescent of Venus is all that is visible in this first picture from Pioneer Venus-1. The U.S. spacecraft was about

60,000 kilometers from the planet, whose surface is entirely blocked

from view by a thick veil of haze of remarkably uniform brightness.

The photograph was taken from light observations for four hours.



New rings in space—This first picture of the rings of Uranus was obtained by scientists using the giant telescope at Mount Palomar,

California, they scanned the planet at two infrared wavelengths, one at which the planet appeared brighter than the rings and one at which

it appeared darker. By subtracting one scan from another, the planet was made to "disappear," leaving the image of the rings.

Cooperation cuts opera costs

By Norris Willatt

MILAN—Opera houses of the world, unite—to save expenses. That's the slogan in circles responsible for staging this popular but costly form of artistic entertainment all around the world: in London, Paris, Hamburg, Vienna, New York and of course, in Milan, home of La Scala, which many besides most Italians consider the world's No. 1 opera house.

The current season at La Scala, in fact, illustrates the spontaneous movement towards collaboration between national opera companies on an international scale. In the case of the Italian company, ties are already pretty close with the Paris Opera. They are becoming closer also with, for example, the Chicago Opera, the Hamburg Opera, the Dusseldorf Opera and the Glyndebourne Opera Company in Britain.

The advantage of the kind of arrangements being made is that they enable one opera company to use the scenery and costumes, and even the cast, orchestra and chorus, of a production already staged by another. The "guest" company has only to pay the cost

of transport, insurance and preparation.

The saving can be considerable, compared with having to carry out the whole operation from scratch in one's own theatre. The building and staging of scenery, and the designing and making of costumes, employ a large and highly paid workforce.

Anything that can be borrowed in this connection is something saved, and the financial benefit is considerably compounded when the contract also includes the services of singers, orchestra and chorus. The principle of such exchanges is not, of course, new. What is novel is the extent to which such sharing is being arranged ahead of time, with economy in mind.

The aim nowadays is to strike a mutual bargain by which the two contracting partners trade the facilities each provides. The partnership already developed between La Scala and the Paris Opera illustrates how far this can go, and how well it can work.

As far back as 1975, the opera-going public in Milan was treated to performances of the Ravel ballet "Daphnis and Chloe," with

the Chagall decor, as originally staged in the French capital. Last season, La Scala offered its *quid pro quo*, by sending to Paris its version of Puccini's "Madam Butterfly".

In autumn this year, Verdi's "Simon Boccanegra", a revival of the 1972 production by Giorgio Strehler, will go to Paris after an enthusiastic reception in Milan this winter. Strehler has already made his mark in Paris with a 1973 presentation of Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro", with the La Scala company, including singers Mirella Freni, Piero Cappuccelli and Nicola Ghiuro and conductor Claudio Abbado, now artistic director of La Scala.

Meanwhile, audiences in Milan are awaiting the arrival from Paris in the spring of the Opera's version of Alban Berg's "Lulu". In return La Scala is sending to France its own version of the same composer's "Wozzeck". Looking still further into the future, the two companies are scheduled to collaborate in preparing a presentation of Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro" for the 1981 season.

Aside from this obviously highly advantageous mutual

exchange, La Scala's current programme shows how far opera is changing from a national to an international institution. During the 1978-79 season, several other "imports", besides those from France, will be on view.

This week saw the European premiere of a new opera by a modern composer, Peadar Kirby's "Paradise Lost". This was only shortly after its first performance at the Lyric Theatre, in Chicago, with the composer conducting.

Also scheduled to arrive from abroad are the Hamburg Opera's version of "The Elixir of Love" (Donizetti), and "The Rake's Progress" (Stravinsky) from Glyndebourne. The Deutsche Oper am Rhein is sending its ballet company to stage a programme of works by Dvorak and Bartok.

Meanwhile, the La Scala company itself is committed to an extensive tour after the end of the season, which will take it to Lucerne, Carinthia in Austria, Berlin and the United States. The visit to America in the autumn will coincide with the opening, at the Lincoln Centre Opera House, of an exhibition celebrating the bicentenary of La Scala.

This is the same exhibition that has been on show in Milan during the past year, evoking 200 years of the history of the renowned opera

house, including some of the greats of opera who are connected with it.

At home, the exhibition has been a huge success. It was attended by some 750,000 visitors from Italy but from all over the world, and secured a international public relations visit to New York. It is to tour the major cities of Germany, and other countries, before becoming a permanent exhibit.

At the start of its tour La Scala itself is thriving. The lean period during which it suffered, now the opera house is as busy as it is breaking even. In 1977-78, some 100,000 opera lovers attended, paying a total of 35.5 million (about £2.2m). The 1978-79 could be even better.

But it is still a battle ends meet. La Scala's costs, especially of labour, a currency that is rising its value and uncertainty about the timing and amount of government subsidy, move towards collaboration with other opera companies.

Financial Times News Service

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دولت اسلامی

Schlesinger tells Congress: Loss of Iranian oil may be more serious than 1973 oil crisis

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (R)—U.S. Energy Secretary James Schlesinger has warned Congress that the loss of Iranian oil could be more serious for the world than the 1973 Middle East oil embargo.

He told the Senate Energy Committee yesterday that drastic cuts in oil supplies from Iran would force the United States and other countries to take steps to conserve energy.

Meanwhile, the State Department reported that Iran was to replace its ambassador here, but the report was immediately disputed at the embassy.

Mr. Schlesinger told the Energy Committee that the Iranian situation had reduced world oil production by five million barrels a day and the cumulative loss since October had been more than 375 million barrels.

The energy secretary has warned repeatedly that a serious oil shortage could develop, but his comments yesterday appeared the strongest to date.

He told questioners that the Iranian oil-shut-off meant consuming countries would have to draw from stocks needed to carry them through next winter.

Asked to compare the Iranian shutdown with the 1973 Arab oil embargo, Mr. Schlesinger said the 1973 cut-off had up to now had a more severe world impact.

But he said it was uncertain

when the situation in Iran might be resolved. It would take several months even after order was restored to increase oil production. This could have a potentially worse impact than the 1973 Arab oil embargo, he told the committee.

Mr. Schlesinger noted that both the government of Prime Minister Shapour Bakhtiar and the rival government set up by religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini had said they would not supply oil to Israel.

In that case, he said, the United States, in addition to trying to meet its own needs, might have to supply oil to Israel and other countries, under existing agreements.

In New York, Texaco, one of the country's largest oil firms, said a loss of supplies from Iran would force it to restrict sales of crude oil to its wholesale customers by eight per cent in February and March.

These curtailments are not expected to reach consumers unless the halt in Iranian supplies extends into the spring.

New developments came yesterday in a dispute over control of the Iranian embassy here. The

State Department reported that Ambassador Ardeshir Zahedi, a close friend of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, was being replaced by Assad Homayoun, the embassy's counsellor, later this month.

But this report was immediately disputed by Ali Tabatabai, press secretary at the embassy here. Mr. Tabatabai said Mr. Zahedi formally notified the State Department earlier this week that Dr. Homayoun and other embassy officials have been suspended and placed on leave.

The State Department, in turn, said it had received its information directly from the Iranian Government.

U.S. officials said it appeared that Ambassador Zahedi, a former son-in-law of the Shah, fired Dr. Homayoun but the Foreign Ministry in Tehran had overruled Mr. Zahedi and reinstated him.

The dispute between the pro and anti-Shah factions erupted last week when Dr. Homayoun removed the Shah's portrait, angering the military security guards at the embassy.

As strikes spread Callaghan won't yield to 'inflationary' pay demands

LONDON, Feb. 8 (R)—Britain's minority Labour government today faced a major strike in the state-run sector of the car industry as well as an escalating pay revolt by 1.5 million public service workers.

But Prime Minister James Callaghan insisted he would not give in to inflationary pay demands. "The offers that have been made are the limits," he said last night.

The country had to make a choice, "the prime minister said in a speech, and he added: "I have made mine, the government has made its, we know where we stand."

"We stand for a Britain which is self-supporting and is going to pay its way in the world but we are not going to yield to clamour and demands for resources which the country does not have."

Yesterday, Britain's biggest car-maker, British Leyland, was hit by a strike which threw the whole future of the ailing nationalised corporation into jeopardy.

Some 20,000 workers at the largest of Leyland's 34 plants walked out indefinitely in a dispute over a productivity bonus. There was growing confusion last night as other plants around the

country voted different ways on the union call for a total stoppage by all 100,000 workers.

Leyland management will meet union representatives today in an attempt to get the strike called off. They have warned that if the majority of the company's workers come out, the corporation might not survive intact and thousands of jobs could be lost.

Meanwhile public service workers will today step up their already highly disruptive action in schools, cemeteries and garbage collection.

Pay talks broke down yesterday. Like the hospital workers the previous day, representatives of local authority manual staff rejected an offer of an 8.8 per cent rise—they want at least 15 per cent.

This group of workers is expected to concentrate its strikes in the constituencies of cabinet ministers—particularly the Welsh seat of Mr. Callaghan where street cleaners and dustmen have stopped work and the garbage mountains are among Britain's highest.

The disruption in schools is expected to continue—yesterday over a thousand were closed—and half the country's hospitals were still only accepting emergency cases.

Rhodesia plans huge mobilisation of forces to safeguard April elections

SALISBURY, Feb. 8 (R)—Rhodesia's transitional government yesterday announced a huge military operation to protect its planned one-man, one-vote elections next April against guerrilla attacks.

The election directorate said all leave for the country's 8,000 regular troops would be cancelled over the election period. Leave would be curtailed for an estimated 30,000 reservists. Civil servants who had military duties or would be needed to help organise the ballot would also have to forego leave, a statement said.

The Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance has vowed to step up its military campaign to wreck the elections, which will lead to Rhodesia's first black administration in which whites will retain key posts. The front is estimated

to have about 12,000 men operating inside Rhodesia.

Security forces in the breakaway British colony have never before been mobilised to such an extent.

As details of the military plans were announced, the government issued invitations to the British and American Governments to send observers to monitor the elections.

The official text of the invitation sent by Bishop Abel Muzorewa, current chairman of the government's Supreme Executive Council, to British Foreign Secretary David Owen said British

observers would be "completely free to monitor every aspect of the conduct of the election." A similar invitation was sent to U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

The Rhodesian Government later said that the U.S. ambassador to South Africa, William Edmondson, had refused to relay the invitation to Washington.

Asked if there was any sign of official Vietnamese collusion in the refugees' departure from Vietnam, a Hong Kong Government spokesman said: "I think there is an increasing amount of evidence to indicate this is the case."

Taiwanese and Indonesians, are being kept aboard along with the refugees, believed to be mostly ethnic Chinese from Vietnam. Hong Kong's transit camps are full with more than 10,300 refugees in this tiny overcrowded colony.

The ship's log book has been lost and no documents have been produced to support his claim, official sources said. The ageing, yellow-funnelled freighter is now being guarded by marine police launches in a sheltered bay off one of Hong Kong's outlying islands.

The 25-man crew, mainly

Hong Kong police guard ship packed with 3,000 refugees

HONG KONG, Feb. 8 (R)—The Taiwanese captain of the freighter Sky Luck which sailed in here yesterday with 3,000 Vietnamese refugees aboard, was being held at knifepoint by several passengers when police first boarded, official sources said today.

The Sky Luck is the second ship

full of "boat people" to dock here in the last two months. Captains who bring unscheduled passengers into Hong Kong face four years' imprisonment if convicted.

Official sources said police found seven to eight Vietnamese holding Captain Hsia Hung-din at knifepoint. The police, not wish-

ing to aggravate the situation, returned to their patrol launch, but later, after talks with refugee representatives, the captain was released.

Last month the British colony accepted 3,400 Vietnamese packed aboard the Taiwanese freighter Huey Fong after the ship lay in Hong Kong waters for four weeks.

The panamanian registered Sky Luck left Singapore on Jan. 12 with a cargo of collapsible boxes

China to allow exiled Tibetans into homeland

NEW DELHI, Feb. 8 (R)—The Chinese Embassy has told a group of 15 Tibetan exiles in India they can apply for visas to visit Tibet, a representative of the Dalai Lama said yesterday.

"This is the first positive indication that Tibetans can go back to their homeland and the first time any Tibetan has made a request to the Chinese," Kalon Rinchen Sadutshang told Reuters.

He said the group asked the Chinese Embassy about a month ago to be allowed to visit relatives in Tibet. The 15 would now prepare their travel documents and apply for visas for a short visit, "not to settle down there," Mr. Sadutshang said.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and temporal leader of Tibet and some 80,000 of his followers have lived in India since fleeing their homeland in 1959 in the face of a Chinese takeover.

The Chinese have issued several appeals of exiled Tibetans to return home, promising not to persecute them. The Dalai Lama's representative said: "We have heard in recent weeks that reception committee has been formed in Lhasa (Tibet's capital) to welcome Tibetans returning home."

He said the willingness of the Chinese authorities to allow Tibetan exiles to visit their homeland was perhaps due to the liberalisation now taking place in China. "But we cannot be sure how freely the Tibetans visiting Tibet will be allowed to move and talk to the people," he said.

The Chinese have also offered to allow the Dalai Lama to return to Tibet, but he told Reuters recently he was suspicious of the offer and was adopting a "wait and see" attitude.

China sets out to trim population growth

PEKING, Feb. 8 (R)—One child is best, two are enough and three deserve a penalty. This is the new formula—with penalties the innovation—being adopted by China to trim its population growth, now believed to total about one billion, to less than one per cent a year by the end of 1980.

Even one per cent would mean ten million extra mouths to feed and minds to educate each year. So while the country still regards manpower as its richest resource, it says that future prosperity depends on fewer people than nature may otherwise intend.

The directors of China's birth planning offices have just held a conference to discuss the matter and they concluded that "one is best, two are the most and three are too many."

The conference was followed by a report that a number of Peking

families have been rewarded and praised for deciding to have only one child.

"Red flowers were pinned to their chests amidst the din of gongs and drums in some units and their names were announced on a board of honour," the Peking Daily, organ of the capital's Communist Party, said.

The People's Daily meanwhile reported that the conference of birth planners had declared that if a couple wanted a second child it should be at least three years after the first.

"For those who give birth three or more times, it is necessary that economic restrictions should be imposed," the birth planners said.

They suggested the implementation of policies "conducive to birth planning." These policies should be attached to the programme under which educated

young people are sent to the country to do farm work for a couple of years—implying that would be the fate of the third or subsequent child—and in the allocation of urban housing and land for housing in rural areas, the granting of private plots to peasants to grow their own crops and in the fixing of peasant's grain rations.

The newspaper said Vice-Premier Chen Mu-hua, who chairs the government's birth planning group, told the conference that there also should be rewards and penalties for medical field workers, the rewards going to those "who have done 10,000 operations without an accident." By operations, she was apparently referring to vasectomies and sterilisations.

Madame Chen said that these workers must be properly trained and sit examinations. A deadline

for improvement should be imposed on those now not fully qualified.

The convening of the conference reflected official fears that millions of extra people would swamp the country's ambitious modernisation goals.

The People's Daily report, which was accompanied by an editorial, said flatly that population growth was linked to living standards and economic development.

By contrast, the New China News Agency said in a commentary only five years ago that there was no population problem. "The country has successfully provided everyone with food, clothing and work, both materially and culturally. The masses are faring better as production expands," the agency said then.

The same report also said that

China's population had been growing at two per cent a year, or double the target for 1980.

The one per cent target already has been met in 11 of the 29 provinces and cities, the People's Daily said in its report on the conference of birth planners.

The one per cent target requires a drastic cut in births because improved health standards are enabling Chinese to live longer.

The big difficulty with a large population, the People's Daily said, was that people were consumers as well as producers and for the first 16 or 17 years were consumers only.

China began family planning in the 1950s, mainly as a propaganda effort that did not last long because of opposition from horrified peasants accustomed to large families that provided extra labour, earned them greater food rations and supported the parents in old age.

The programme resumed in the early 1960s but was curtailed by the cultural revolution and did not restart until 1971.

Propaganda and persuasion were the main weapons used. Every street, neighbourhood, commune, factory, office and military unit had a family planning group staffed by volunteers dis-

pensing advice, counselling and birth control lectures.

At the same time, villages became the rule countryside, men can at 25 and women at 23 the cities the man must be the woman 23 or 24 days the city.

China is now reportedly developed a male pill—target of "scientists" as world-based on gospel of cotton seed. The to be almost 100 per cent but is still under research.

Another key approach control is stressing its women. Fewer children after freedom for women China News Agency said recalling Mao Tse-tung that women "hold up sky."

"Only when women independent economy they enjoy the same men," the agency said, "the agency said, 'the great women's thorough liberation'."

To round off the national conference of birth planners, the country had to do elderly, especially the no children.

Brightness of Venus be caused by lightning

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California, Feb. 8 (R)—Venus, the planet in the solar system, may be lit up by an electrical giant lightning flashes, U.S. space scientists said yesterday.

The scientists, reporting on the results of the latest set of Venus, said they had not reached final conclusions, but they could explain the brightness of the planet, which is closest solar neighbour.

Some scientists had suggested previously that the glow from a sulphur compound burning in the atmosphere.

"We do not have proof that there is lightning, but our suggestion we are receiving radio signals from lightning scientists, Fred Scarf, told a press conference at the Ames Research Centre.

Combining observations by the Russians, who have sent Venus probes, and the Americans, there appeared to be when there was a continual electrical glow from lightning scientist reported.

The Pioneer Venus 11 "space bus" burned up in its and its four probe satellites crash-landed on the planet last after sending back information. Scientists are analysing information sent back by the Venus 11 satellites along with received from Pioneer Venus 1, which is in its 65th orbit.

A spokesman at the space centre said the scientists hope will enable weather experts to make more accurate predictions of the weather on Earth. "The weather of Venus involved in a sulphur cycle as opposed to a water cycle on Earth," he said.

Europe prepares for permanent guests

By Thomas Land

GENEVA—A seemingly uncontroversial resolution to be considered by the United Nations' Human Rights Commission here late in February may well mark the beginning of a fundamental shift in Western Europe's attitudes towards its "guest" workers.

The nine governments of the European Community and their neighbours privately acknowledge that their foreign "guest" workers and their families—an economically underprivileged and culturally diverse minority of about 13m. people lacking political rights—are there to stay permanently. But few of them have the political courage to ask, in the present climate of insecurity caused by record unemployment, whether the very presence of a large and permanent community deprived of any political representation does not undermine the essential premises of democracy.

The draft resolution was worked out by a group of concerned nations, significantly including Britain, France and West Germany, the major host countries of the Community.

It seeks permanent cultural and economic provisions for the "guest" communities, including the right to industrial and political organisation. The composition of the Human Rights Commission's working group on migrant labour

and the wording of the draft resolution it composed at a recent meeting here suggest that Western Europe is at last prepared to share a measure of political power with its newly established minorities.

Europe's biggest employer of foreign labour is West Germany, which has tried to reduce its migrant population since early 1973, well before the oil crisis. But its permanent population of "guest" workers and their dependants is a record 4m.—despite the country's five-year old total ban on recruiting and its various investment schemes designed to encourage the departure of foreigners. Yet another 1.4m. dependants of foreigners already in the country, who are entitled to residence rights, are officially expected from abroad. In addition, the foreigners may well produce a million offspring within a decade, according to conservative estimates in Bonn.

Originally, they were expected to stay strictly for the duration of their jobs, usually the dirtiest and least remunerative, for which natives could not be found. Their reluctance to leave after the oil crisis, which ended a period of unprecedented economic growth in Western Europe, has surprised the continent's planners. They had disregarded the economic conditions of the "guest" workers' own countries—in poorer parts of Europe as well as Africa, Asia and the Caribbean—to which those of Western Europe compare favourably, even during recessions.

Western Europe is facing up to the fact that its "guest workers" are likely to stay permanently, with their families. The need to recognise this becomes more pressing as labour exporters like Greece, Portugal and Spain prepare to join the EEC.

The foreigners have thus become a large and permanent economic entity comprising a self-generating population which cannot be expelled, except through methods unacceptable to a community of West European democracies. Yet their present circumstances also conflict with the European ideal of liberal democracy.

The reason is that, apart from Britain's Commonwealth and Irish immigrants, they all lack any political power. Their children, officially citizens of the countries of their birth, are statistically likely to inherit the inferior social and economic status of their parents, according to recent studies published by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

About a fifth of their children of school age are believed to be

receiving no education. In fact, there are educational pilot projects in many European cities to try to ensure that the one and a half million children of migrants, who are attending school learn not only the language of their adopted country but also retain their original language and culture. The European Community's Council of Ministers has adopted a directive prescribing specific curricula.

A proposal to combat illegal immigration and the employment of illegal immigrants, who are frequently exploited ruthlessly, has been prepared by the European Commission in Brussels, and there is a gradual coordination of the immigration policies of Western Europe. Various housing pilot schemes aimed at the cultural integration of migrants have begun.

But these measures hardly meet

the actual needs. A comprehensive report on the housing of migrant workers, published by the European Commission, proposes the establishment of a fund to finance urgent measures to end discrimination. The study was compiled by 30 specialists throughout the Community, including anthropologists, social geographers, economists, psychologists and sociologists, all of them independent of both the European Commission and the member governments. Significantly, they treated the issue as a long-term problem of considerable effect on the whole of Western Europe.

The European Commission is promoting some modest proposals for a gradual sharing of political rights with the resident foreigners, at least to local government level. It also wants them to have an automatic right to bring in their families, as recommended by the draft resolution now before the U.N.'s Human Rights Commission. Such proposals have been hitherto doggedly resisted by Europe's host governments because they have been for some time on the retreat from the vocal extreme rightists political movements which thrive on economic insecurity and which seek the compulsory repatriation of the foreigners. But the draft resolution before the U.N. Commission suggests that they are prepared to move in the context of an international agreement.

Paradoxically, immigration restrictions imposed on foreign labour are likely in fact to increase, rather than to decrease, unemployment among the natives, according to an OECD study. It explains that labour shortages confined to a few sectors of the economy cause a shortfall of output and result in redundancies. Another study published by the U.N.'s Economic Commission for Europe argues that economic recovery in Western Europe may well be encouraged by a fresh influx of foreign labour.

Even if it were possible—let alone desirable—to expel the foreign workers, their places would soon be taken by others. Portugal, Spain and Greece are expected to join the Community within the foreseeable future, opening the door to vast numbers of south European pre-industrial peasants.

This explains Europe's apparent willingness to give way to pressure from the Human Rights Commission. Migrant workers of the future, standing on the cherished principle of free circulation of labour within the Community, will naturally enjoy all the political rights of their fellow European citizens. The introduction of political rights for the existing migrant communities would thus wisely avoid the creation of two classes of foreign labour at the foot of Europe's ladder to prosperity.

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